

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 13, and 15 to further clarify this invention. In addition, by the Amendment, Applicant cancels claims 2, 3, and 5.

I. Summary of the Office Action

The Examiner withdrew the allowability of claims 3 and 5 in view of newly found references. In particular, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 6, 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,618,587 to Ghafoor (hereinafter “Ghafoor”) and claims 1-5 and 13-16 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,606,491 to Peck (hereinafter “Peck”). In addition, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 6-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,327,477 to Hachimura (hereinafter “Hachimura”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,097,968 to Bannister et al. (hereinafter “Bannister”). Finally, the Examiner objected to claim 12 because of minor informality.

II. Claim Objection

The Examiner objected to claim 12 because it recites “preliminarily registered” (see page 2 of the Office Action). Applicant has revised claim 12, and respectfully submits that the claim as now presented no longer include the potential informality mentioned by the Examiner. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this objection to claim 12.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 6, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ghafoor, and claims 1-5 and 13-16 as being anticipated by Peck. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider in view of the comments, which follow. As claims 1, 2, 6, 10, 12, 13, and 15 are independent, the other rejected claims being dependent, this response focuses initially on the independent claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 6, 10, and 12 as being anticipated by Ghafoor. Claim 1, recites: “the slave telephone set independently communicating over a plurality of channels via the master telephone set with the public telephone network, and when a communication request is issued from a telephone set from said plurality of telephone sets during communication with the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using one unit ID, the slave telephone set establishes a communication with the public telephone network by concurrently connecting the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using another unit ID.”

Grafoor teaches a PCS mobile telephone handset being connected to a switching system via, for example, PSTN. The handset has a plurality of directory numbers, which can be activated or deactivated to receive calls intended for different directory numbers using one handset (col. 1, line 60 to col. 2, line 38). In Gafoor, however, at each point in time, the user can receive a call via one selected (activated) directory number. In other words, Gafoor fails to teach or suggest a handset that can independently communicate over a plurality of channels. In Gafoor, the handset communicates using only one channel at a time. That is Gafoor’s handset cannot independently, communicate over a number of channels.

Therefore, “the slave telephone set independently communicating over a plurality of channels via the master telephone set with the public telephone network, and when a communication request is issued from a telephone set from said plurality of telephone sets during communication with the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using one unit ID, the slave telephone set establishes a communication with the public telephone network by concurrently connecting the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using another unit ID,” as set forth in the independent claim 1 is not suggested or taught by Gafoor. For at least this exemplary reason, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Gafoor. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection of independent claim 1.

Independent claims 6, 10, and 12 recite features similar to the features argued above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, those arguments are respectfully submitted to apply with equal force here. For at least substantially the same reasons, therefore, Applicant submits that claims 6, 10, and 12 are patentably distinguishable from Gafoor.

Next, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 13-16 as being anticipated by Peck. Among a number of unique features, claim 1 recites: “the slave telephone set independently communicating over a plurality of channels via the master telephone set with the public telephone network, and when a communication request is issued from a telephone set from said plurality of telephone sets during communication with the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using one unit ID, the slave telephone set establishes a communication with the public telephone network by concurrently connecting the master telephone set via the

radio communication channel using another unit ID.” The Examiner alleges that Peck’s signaling arrangement for granting a particular pair of voice channels is equivalent to using two or more channel by the slave telephone set, as set forth in claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Peck teach a dual-mode terminal, which can operate in a GSM network and AMPS network. In other words, Peck only teaches a dual mode terminal capable of coping for both of AMPS used in North America based on EIA/TIA553A (col. 11, lines 34-36) and the GSM used in Europe (col. 12, lines 31-33). Peck’s terminal, however, uses only one of AMPS and GSM. That is, Peck’s terminal cannot use both AMPS and GSM at the same time. Peck’s terminal cannot simultaneously communicate using both AMPS and GSM. Accordingly, Peck does not teach or suggest simultaneous radio communication by simultaneously using two or more channels by the slave telephone set. In other words, Peck fails to teach or suggest a terminal capable of independently communicating over a number of channels.

Therefore, “the slave telephone set independently communicating over a plurality of channels via the master telephone set with the public telephone network, and when a communication request is issued from a telephone set from said plurality of telephone sets during communication with the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using one unit ID, the slave telephone set establishes a communication with the public telephone network by concurrently connecting the master telephone set via the radio communication channel using another unit ID,” as set forth in the independent claim 1 is not suggested or taught by Peck. For at least this exemplary reason, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is

patentably distinguishable from Peck. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection of independent claim 1.

Claims 2, 3, and 5 are canceled. Therefore, this rejection is literally moot with respect to these dependent claims. Claim 4 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 1.

Next, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to independent claims 13 and 15. Independent claims 13 and 15 recite features similar to the features argued above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, those arguments are respectfully submitted to apply with equal force here. For at least substantially the same reasons, therefore, Applicant submits that claims 15 are patentably distinguishable from Peck. Also, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14 and 16 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 13 and 15, respectively.

IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hachimura in view of Bannister. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider in view of the comments, which follow.

The Examiner found Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 2 persuasive and withdrew this § 103 rejection of claim 2 (see page 9 of the Office Action). Applicant amends claims 6 and 10 to recite features similar to the features of claim 2, namely: "the slave telephone set simultaneously communicating over a plurality of channels via the master telephone set with the public telephone network, and when a communication request is issued from a telephone set from said plurality of telephone sets during communication with the master telephone set via the

radio communication channel using one unit ID, the slave telephone set establishes a communication with the public telephone network by connecting the telephone set via the radio communication channel using another unit ID.” The combined teachings of Hachimura and Bannister fail to teach or suggest simultaneous radio communication by a slave set over a plurality of channels. For at least this exemplary reason, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of independent claims 6 and 10. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7-9 and 11 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 6 and 10, respectively.

V. Conclusion

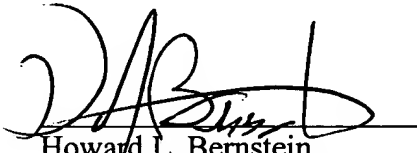
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Bernstein', is written over a horizontal line.

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